

The Wakefield Players

present

THE
YELLOW
BOAT

by David Saar

Nov. 30, Dec. 1, 8, and 9 2012

Produced by special arrangement with
THE DRAMATIC PUBLISHING COMPANY of Woodstock, Illinois.
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The Cast

Benjamin	SEAN BALICK*
Father	JESSE REMEDIOS*
Mother	SOFIA NAVAS-SHARRY*
Joy	CARLA ASTUDILLO*
#1/Eddy	KARL GREEN*
#2	JULIA WATSON*
#3	ANTHONY CHARLES
#4	LENA MOBIN*
#5	DAVID BALICK
#6	GRACE SCHROEDER*

The Crew

Director	JOE SPENCER
Tech Director	CHRIS GILLESPIE
Student Director	ARIEL CADBY-SPICER
Stage Managers	EMILY HAMBRIDGE* LUCY NAVAS SHARRY
Props	ISABEL GEORGE*
Costumes	CLARA DOIN
Lights	MAX ROSENBERG*
Sound	JACK DOBBINS
House Manager	MANAAL QADRI
House Crew	IWAM BEREKET, ARSEMA SOLOMON, SALINA OGBE

* Indicates a member of Wakefield's Thespian Troupe.

There will be a 15 minute intermission during tonight's performance.

THE YELLOW BOAT is based on the true story of David and Sonja Saar's son, Benjamin, who was born with congenital hemophilia. A uniquely gifted visual artist, Benjamin's buoyant imagination transformed his physical and emotional pain into a blaze of colors and shapes in his fanciful drawings and paintings. The story of THE YELLOW BOAT is a glorious affirmation of a child's life, and the strength and courage of all children.

More information about THE YELLOW BOAT and Benjamin Saar may be obtained from Kathy Krzys. She is the curator of the child drama collection at ASU in Tempe, Arizona.



Cast Bios

Carla Astudillo (Joy) is performing in her 11th show at Wakefield. Other shows include *Godspell*, *Anyone Can Whistle* (June), *Almost, Maine* (Sandrine), *Brothers Grimm Spectaculathon* (Rumpelstiltskin), *Once On This Island* (ensemble, costumes, makeup), *Broadway Cabaret '11* (Cujo), *Wiley and the Hairy Man*, *The Marriage of Miss Hollywood and King Neptune* (Geraldine, Costumes, Makeup), *Beauty and the Beast* (Wardrobe, Makeup), *Broadway Cabaret '12* (Wednesday Addams) and *Runaways*. She also had the great honor of playing Isabel in *Pirates of Penzance* at Encore Stage & Studio this past summer. She would like to thank this cast and crew for their dedication and hard work. She would also like to thank her family and friends for their unconditional love. "I found the theatre and I found my home."-Audra McDonald

David Balick (Ensemble) is really excited to appear in his 5th show at Wakefield! Balick has been performing at Wakefield High School for three years and is sad to be in his final Wakefield show. He has performed in *Check Please*, *Almost Maine*, *Wiley and the Hairy Man*, and *The Marriage of Miss Hollywood and King Neptune*. He's extremely excited and proud to be performing in *The Yellow Boat* and would like to thank his entire family for their support. Thanks guys! Enjoy the show!

Sean Balick (Benjamin) is excited to be a part of *The Yellow Boat*. This is Sean's second performance at Wakefield High School. His other was *The Marriage of Ms. Hollywood and King Neptune* where he played Joey Bananas. He is performing at Signature Theatre in his second Signature in the Schools production. He would like to thank

all of his friends, family and mentors for all the support that they have given him and for everything that they have done for him.

Karl Green (Eddy), a sophomore at Wakefield, is truly honored to be a part of such an amazing and dedicated cast this year. Previous shows include *The Marriage of Miss Hollywood and King Neptune* (the Director), *Beauty and the Beast* (Chip), *Runaways* (Eddie/Ensemble), *Aesop's Oh So Slightly Updated Fables* (Narrator/Miller), and *Take Your Kid to Work Day* (John). Karl has also been seen in *Signature in the Schools' Un-American* playing the role of Jesse. He's been cast again this year for their upcoming production of *Revolution*. Along with his theatrical endeavors, Karl is involved in Wakefield's SGA; serving as 2015 Class President! He is immensely grateful for and would like to thank God, his family and friends, and YOU!

Lena Mobin (Ensemble) is in her fifth show with The Wakefield Players. Previous shows include: *Harry's Hotter at Twilight*, *Runaways the Musical*, *Hansel*, and *The Marriage of Miss Hollywood and King Neptune*. She has taken numerous classes with Synetic Theater and has an Internship with Ambassador Theater. Lena is grateful to be part of the cast of *The Yellow Boat*. She is looking forward to expanding her theatrical endeavors.

Sofia Navas Sharry (Mother) has been acting and performing since her debut in *The Shoemaker and the Elves* in third grade. Since then she has been in a number of shows including *Bye Bye Birdie* (Ursula), *Beauty and the Beast* (Babette), and *The Marriage of Miss Hollywood and King Neptune* (Lola Gottalotta). She also has experience on the stage playing the cello since the 4th grade. She is very excited to be working with such a wonderful cast and crew, and would like to thank them, her family, and her friends for all their love and support. She hopes you enjoy the show as much as she has.

Jesse Remedios (Father) is really excited to play the part of "Father". This is Jesse's 6th show in the Wakefield Theater Department. Jesse would like to thank his directors for helping him work on his character at rehearsals. Jesse would also like to thank his family for their support. Have a great night!

Grace Schroeder (Ensemble) is a junior at Wakefield this year. She is thrilled to be able to participate in *The Yellow Boat*. She has also taken part in other productions at Wakefield, including: *The Marriage of Miss Hollywood & King Neptune*, *Beauty and the Beast*, *Aesop's Oh So Slightly Updated Fables*, *Wings*, and most recently, *Runaways*. She is so grateful to have had the support from her family and friends while she

has been in theatre. She hopes you all enjoy watching the show as much as she has enjoyed helping to make it a reality.

Julia Watson (Ensemble) Is a freshman and is thrilled to be in her first Wakefield play! Previous performances include Peter Quince in *A Midsummer Nights Dream*, *Janine in Romeo to Go*, Ensemble in *Wiley and the Hairy Man* and Baby Jesus in the Nativity play at her church. She has always enjoyed theater and wants to thank her family and friends for their support and unquestionable love. She would like to thank her Dad for helping her discover her theater dreams, her Mom for inspiring those dreams, Mrs. Hunter for believing in those dreams, Mrs. Chapuis for developing those dreams, Mr. Gillespie and Mr. Spencer for giving her an opportunity and her brother for keeping her smiling.

Crew Bios

Joe Spencer (Director) is directing his first show with The Wakefield Players. He was the assistant director on *The Marriage of Miss Hollywood to King Neptune* and *Disney's Beauty and the Beast*. He also directed the short one-act *Take Your Kids to Work Day* for Wakefield Arts Night. In the past, he has worked on *Up the Down Staircase*, *Little Shop of Horrors* and *Pump Boys and Dinettes*. He would like to thank the entire cast and crew for being so much fun to work with and Chris Gillespie for sharing his stage.

Chris Gillespie (Technical Director) has been the Theatre Arts teacher at Wakefield for the past 15 years and is grateful to have Mr. Spencer join the Theatre Department as director for this incredible play. Mr. Gillespie has a BS in Theater Education from Wright State University and a MFA in Acting from Florida Atlantic University. In his free time, he performs in productions in the area. Most recently as Judge Turpin in *Sweeney Todd the Demon Barber of Fleet Street* at Alexandria Little Theatre and Adult Man in *Spring Awakening* at Dominion Stage. He is currently in rehearsal for the Kander and Ebb musical *Cabaret* at the Keegan Theatre in DC which runs January 26—February 23. Mr. Gillespie want the cast and crew of *The Yellow Boat* to know that he is so proud of what they have accomplished.

Clara Doin (Costumes) is so happy to be working on her fourth show at Wakefield! She has previously done props, lights, stage crew and set construction and design for *Once on This Island*, *Almost, Maine*, and *Beauty and the Beast*. She loves helping with the shows and will miss it next year!

Isabel George (Props) is working on her third show with the Wakefield Players. She previously was a part of the stage crew for *The Marriage of Miss. Hollywood and King Neptune* and played pit for *Beauty and the Beast*. She had a great time helping with this show and is looking forward to working on more at Wakefield.

Emily Hambridge (Stage Manager) is a junior and is so excited to be working on her third show at Wakefield High School! She has previously done props and stage crew for *The Marriage of Miss Hollywood and King Neptune* and costumes and stage crew for *Almost, Maine*. She has also been Assistant Stage Manager for *Image is Everything* and *Un-American* through Signature in the Schools. She would like to thank the other Stage Manager, Luci, for doing such an amazing job at Stage Managing her first show! Emily looks forward to helping with as many shows as possible in the future and hopes to pursue a career in Stage Management!

Lucia Navas-Sharry (Stage Manager) is so thrilled to be stage managing at Wakefield for the first time! It's her second show at Wakefield, and she's excited to work on more shows in the future, including *Legally Blonde* and *West Side Story*. She'd like to thank Emily Hambridge and Page Tazewell, her mentors, for showing her the ropes of tech theatre.

Jose Penalva (Spotlight Operator) is a junior at Wakefield. This is his fourth production with The Wakefield Players. He has performed in *Beauty and the Beast* (Ensemble), *Charlotte's Webb* (Wilbur), and *Runaways* (Stage Manager). He hopes that you enjoy the show and come back for *West Side Story*. Shout out to the bosses, Luci and Emily.

Manaal Qadri (House Manager) is a sophomore and has been working on plays since her freshman year. She has worked on *The Marriage of Miss Hollywood and King Neptune* and *Beauty and the Beast*. She enjoys her time working with everyone and hopes to continue.

Max Rosenberg (Lighting Designer) is participating in his third show with The Wakefield Players, working on lights in *Beauty and the Beast*, *Runaways*, and *The Yellow Boat*. He has also worked on three Signature in the Schools shows, *Shakespeare, Will, Image is Everything*, and *Un-American* as Stage Manager. He has participated in the Capital

Fringe Festival in the show *Mindset* as Stage Manager. He has shadowed at Signature Theatre in *Hairspray* and Stage Management intern in *Dreamgirls*. He is excited to be a senior and work on *West Side Story* as well as going to college next fall for Technical Theater.

William Westray IV (Spotlight Operator) is a first-time spotlight operator. He is usually acting in the Wakefield productions. He has appeared in *The Marriage of Ms. Hollywood and King Neptune* and *Beauty and the Beast*. He participated in a performance of the *Runaways* with the Wakefield cast at the Virginia Theater Association (VTA). He is excited to be a part of *The Yellow Boat* and hopes everyone enjoys the show.

David Saar (Playwright) is the Founder and Artistic Director of Childsplay, Inc., an award winning theatre for young audiences in Tempe, Arizona. THE YELLOW BOAT premiered at Childsplay in 1993 and received the Distinguished Play Award in 1998 from the American Association of Theatre and Education. Saar has also overseen and directed a number of new plays in development including THE YELLOW BOAT, HUSH: AN INTERVIEW WITH AMERICA and PHENOMENAL SMITH. His community work includes a three year term on the Tempe Municipal Arts Commission, he is a board member of the US branch of ASSITEJ: the International Children's Theatre Association and is active in the American Association for Theatre and Education.

Please turn your Cell Phones OFF.

We want everyone to be able to enjoy the show.

- Talking during the show is disrespectful to the other audience members.
- The glow from cell phone screens distracts others during the performance.
- Cell phones ringing during performance disturbs other audience members as well as the actors on stage.

Thank You To...

Dr. Chris Willmore, Alicia Zekan, Donna Felsenheld, Gina Glassman, Claudia Collins, Rosario Justiniano, Mary Thacker, Beverly Martin, Tina Soltow, Luisa Barba, Miriam Ramirez, Willow Scott, Margot Dunn, Fernando Castro, Teresa Swihart, Karen Snyder, Deneen Stambone, Vincent Jenkins, Jina Davidson, Carol Cadby, Caitlin Chapuis, Dominion Stage, David M. Moretti, Baron Pugh, Keith Cassidy and Washington-Lee High School Theatre Arts Department, and the parents of all the cast and crew members.

Past Seasons

2011-2012	The Marriage of Miss Hollywood and King Neptune, Wiley and the Hairy Man, Beauty and the Beast
2010-2011	Almost, Maine, Anyone Can Whistle, The Brothers Grimm Spectaculathon, Once on This Island
2009-2010	Dearly Departed, Blood Wedding, Aesop's Fables, The Lesser Lion, Godspell
2008-2009	Disney's High School Musical On Stage!, Psycho Beach Party, Windchimes, A Chorus Line
2007-2008	The Boys Next Door, Ichabod, Grease
2006-2007	Rumors, To Have And To Hold, Dreamgirls
2005-2006	Mrs. Bob Cratchit's Wild Christmas Binge, Check Please, The Wiz
2004-2005	Radium Girls, Guys and Dolls
2003-2004	Twelfth Night, This Is A Test, The Lesser Lion, Runaways
2002-2003	The Skin of Our Teeth, Soul Endeavors, The Robber Bridegroom
2001-2002	The Crucible, The Lady In Question, A Funny Thing Happened On The Way To The Forum
2000-2001	The Servant of Two Masters, Psycho Beach Party, Starmites
1999-2000	Henry V, This Is The Rill Speaking, To Have And To Hold
1998-1999	Fools, Celebration, Annie
1997-1998	Pippin, The Serpent, A Midsummer Night's Dream

Upcoming Dates

The Night of One Acts—January 17, 2013

West Side Story—April 5, 6, 12 & 13, 2013

Broadway Cabaret—May 17, 2013

A Spoonful of Plays—June 6, 2013